

Archaeological Survey

**LAKEVIEW RANCH
+/- 150 ACRES STUART ROAD
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

***FROST GEOSCIENCES, INC. PROJECT NO.: FGS-E08162
APRIL 22, 2008***

Prepared exclusively for

***Stuart Road 7304, LLC
c/o MBC Engineers
1035 Central Parkway North
San Antonio, Texas 78232***

The logo features a large, dark, stylized 'C' or swoosh shape that frames the company name. The name 'Frost GeoSciences' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. 'Frost' is in a dark grey color, while 'GeoSciences' is in a lighter grey color with a subtle gradient and a slight shadow effect.

Frost GeoSciences

***Construction Materials • Forensics
Environmental • Geotechnical***

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RESTRICTED CULTURAL INFORMATION

According to the Texas Administrative Code: TITLE 13: CULTURAL RESOURCES, PART 2, TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, CHAPTER 24, RESTRICTED CULTURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION, RULE §24.3 Scope: "The intent of these rules is to restrict access to specific cultural resource data to those individuals that have a legitimate scientific or legal interest in obtaining and using that information. The intent is not to limit the public's use of all information that the commission has within its libraries, files, documents, and the THSA database; however, as provided for in §442.007(f) of the Texas Government Code, and §191.004(a-c) of the Texas Natural Resources Code, the commission can determine what cultural resource information is sensitive and what information needs to be restricted due to potential dangers to those resources. The cultural resources that the commission considers to be at risk include Archaeological sites, shipwrecks, certain historic structures and engineering features. Public disclosure of any information relating to the location or character of these resources would increase their risk of harm, theft or destruction. Therefore, this information is defined as restricted and is not subject to public disclosure under state law. Restrictions on who can obtain data and how the data are used is within the legal authority of the commission, and can be defined through the rule-making authority of the commission."

As a result, it must be noted that the information contained within this report cannot be made available to the general public and additional copies of this report and the attached maps are not permissible without the written consent of Frost GeoSciences, Inc. and Abasolo Archaeological Consultants.

1.0 ABSTRACT

In general accordance with the proposal accepted by Mr. Mike Gulley, dated April 4, 2008; Frost GeoSciences, Inc. (FGS) was authorized to perform a Phase I Archaeological Survey for the Lakeview Ranch conducted on April 8, 2008.

Frost GeoSciences, Inc., in conjunction with Abasolo Archaeological Consultants, conducted an archeological survey of 150 acres proposed for the Lakeview Ranch subdivision, Calaveras Lake, southeastern Bexar County. The property is situated west of Stuart Road, adjacent to Calaveras Lake Park, along the southeast bank of Calaveras Lake. The Site is private property which appears to have long ago been cleared and subsequently used for farming and the raising of livestock. The assessment was carried out with the purpose of assessing the significance of any cultural resources that may have been discovered on the property. Fieldwork consisted of a pedestrian survey of the entire property which identified two prehistoric archaeological sites, 41BX1769 and 41BX1770. A full description of these sites is presented in this report. Both sites consist of light lithic artifact scatters that are confined to the sandy mantle plow zone overlying clay subsoil. The only archaeological site component found to contain any temporally diagnostic artifacts is located within 41BX1769; the component at this location dates sometime in the Archaic Period. A "no collecting" policy was followed during the survey, and the diagnostic artifacts found were digitally photographed for documentation. Neither site has any stratigraphic integrity and no further archaeological work is recommended.

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2.0 GEOLOGIC MAP REVIEW

The Site is located on the Wilcox Group. The Wilcox Group consists of mudstone with various amounts of sandstone, lignite, ironstone concretions, and is commonly glauconitic. The mudstone in the upper part is massive to thin-bedded pale brown to yellowish brown with silt and very fine sand laminae. This weathers yellowish brown. The mudstone in the lower part is medium to dark gray and weathers yellowish gray. The sandstone in the upper part is light gray to pale yellow, mostly medium to fine grained, moderately well sorted, crossbedded, lenticular and ranged from 5 to 30 feet thick. The sandstone in the lower part is yellowish brown to moderate brown, very fine grained, well sorted, in part argillaceous, locally burrowed, crossbedded, and range from a few inches to 10 feet thick. Lignite is brownish black and occurs near the middle with seams 1 to 20 feet thick. Overall thickness of the Wilcox Formation is about 1250 feet.

A copy of the Geologic Atlas of Texas, San Antonio Sheet (revised 1982) indicating the location of the Site and the geologic formations is included in this report in Figure 3.

3.0 U.S.D.A. SOIL SURVEY REVIEW

The United States Department of Agricultural (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) maintains an online Web Soil Survey for Bexar County, Texas. According to the Web Soil Survey the Site is located on the Duval loamy fine sand, 1 to 5 percent slopes (DmC), Floresville fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes (WbB), the Floresville fine sandy loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes (WeC2), the Floresville fine sandy loam, 5 percent slopes eroded (WeC3) and the San Antonio clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes (SaB).

The Duval Fine Sandy Loam consists of sandy upland soils that are deep, reddish, and nearly level to moderately sloping. These soils developed over calcareous sandy material and soft sandstone. They occur in the southeastern and southern portions of the county. The surface layer is brown to reddish brown, slightly acid fine sandy loam or loamy fine sand and is about 14 inches thick. It has weak, granular structure, is friable when moist, and is easily worked. The subsoil is yellowish red, slightly acid sandy clay loam and is about 40 inches thick. It contains more clay than the surface layer. This layer has weak, coarse, prismatic structure and is friable when moist. The underlying material is very pale brown, slightly acid oam mixed with weakly consolidated sandstone. This material is massive and porous and is friable when moist. It extends to a depth of several feet. This soil is moderately well drained or well drained. Internal drainage is medium or rapid. Water erosion and wind erosion is a hazard.

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The Floresville Fine Sandy Loam consists of deep, noncalcareous, friable, nearly level to gently sloping loamy material that has thin strata of sandstone. Typically, the surface layer is noncalcareous, reddish-brown fine sandy loam about 10 inches thick. The next layer is noncalcareous, red clay about 11 inches thick and noncalcareous, red sandy clay about 9 inches thick. Below it is noncalcareous, yellowish-red sandy clay loam about 7 inches thick and calcareous, reddish-yellow sandy clay loam about 7 inches thick. The underlying material, to a depth of 65 inches, is reddish-yellow, mottled sandy clay loam. These soils are well drained, and permeability is slow. Available water capacity is medium, and runoff is slow to medium. The hazard of water erosion is moderate.

The San Antonio Clay Loam (SaB) consists of deep, moderately dark colored, nearly level and undulating soils on the uplands. These soils occur in the eastern and southern parts of the county. The surface layer is dark brown, noncalcareous clay loam and is about 8 inches thick. It has weak, subangular blocky structure. The subsoil is noncalcareous, brown or dark reddish brown, about 20 inches thick, and more clayey in the upper part than in the lower part. The upper part is clay and has moderate, medium, blocky structure. The lower part is reddish brown or brown light clay or heavy sandy clay and has weak, blocky structure. The underlying material is light yellowish brown light clay or heavy sandy clay and has weak blocky structure. This soil has slow surface drainage and very slow internal drainage. Permeability is very slow. The capacity to hold water is good. Natural fertility is moderately high. Water erosion is a hazard.

A copy of the Aerial Photograph from the U.S.D.A. Soil Survey of Bexar County, Texas indicating the location of the Site and the soil types is included in this report on Figure 4.

4.0 INTRODUCTION

Frost GeoSciences, Inc., in conjunction with Abasolo Archaeological Consultants, conducted an archeological survey of the approximately 150 acres proposed for the Lakeview Ranch subdivision, Calaveras Lake, southeastern Bexar County, Texas (Fig. 2). A 100% pedestrian survey of the Site was carried out in order to insure that no significant archaeological or historical resources are damaged or destroyed due to the planned work. A review of maps and plans indicates the Site lies on the southeast edge of Calaveras Lake, not far from the eastern end of the Calaveras Lake dam (Fig.2). The Site exists as private property which appears to have long ago been cleared and subsequently used for farming and the raising of livestock. The entire project area was surveyed and two archaeological sites were found. Both archaeological sites consist of thinly scattered lithic artifacts. A full description of the two archaeological sites is presented in this report. A "no collecting" policy was followed during the survey, and the diagnostic artifacts found were digitally photographed for documentation.

Field work was performed on April 8, 2008 by Dr. Tomas Hester, Ph.D and Dr. Harry Shafer, Ph.D, with Brian Culver of Frost GeoSciences assisting. Survey conditions were good and ground visibility was adequate for the detection of any cultural resources that may have been present.

5.0 SETTING

The 150-acre Lakeview Ranch development is located in southeastern Bexar County, just northeast of the town of Elmendorf (Fig. 2). The project area is at the south end of Calaveras Lake, on the east side of the lake, very near the Calaveras Lake dam. Prior to the construction of the Calaveras Lake dam in the 1960s, the area was drained by Calaveras and Chupaderas Creeks. These two creeks made their confluence just south of this location. Indeed, prior to the lake, this area would have been accurately described as the lower Chupaderas Creek drainage.

The survey area historically has been used as farmland, barns and a residence related to this use of the property still stand (Fig.5). The Site is situated on slightly rolling terrain, with an ephemeral drainage to Calaveras Creek cutting east to west through the central portion of the tract. Geologically, the Wilcox Group is characteristic of southern Bexar County (Arnold 1959:18) (Fig. 3). This is a thick (up to 1000 feet), sandy formation, often marked by reddish soils whose colors are derived from the fragmented ferruginous sandstones within the Wilcox.

The soils are of the Duval series (Taylor et al. 1991), specifically the "Duval loam fine Sand, 1-5% slopes; DmC) (Fig. 4). In areas there is a mantle of loose sand and sandy loam. This can be up to 16 inches thick, according to Taylor et al. (1991:15). It overlies a porous sandy clay loam, which is the basic stable surface in the area. Some places within the project area evidence highly weathered sandstone fragments.

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6.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The nature of historic and prehistoric cultural resources in southern Bexar County is poorly known, especially when compared to intensive studies done across large parts of northern San Antonio. While the archaeological record of southeastern Bexar County fits into the regional cultural framework extending back at least 11,200 years (e.g., Hester 2004), only a handful of archaeological sites have been documented in the area. Most of the data has been derived from cultural resource surveys performed for various state and federal agencies (e.g., EH&A 1985).

Previous archaeological surveys, including those by AAC (e.g., Hester and Shafer 2006; Shafer 2005; Shafer and Hester 2004a; 2004b; 2006) have documented prehistoric Native American campsites as well as areas of lithic resource exploitation in the Blackland prairie. Most campsites are located along the major streams, while lithic procurement sites occur on the uplands along minor streams. There is a moderate to high probability that one of these types of sites will occur in the survey area. Lithic procurement types of sites and localities are marked by debris from stone tool manufacture, and often spent tools. While lithic resource sites are anticipated within the project area, there is a low potential for prehistoric campsites. Campsites can be identified by the presence of concentrated areas of hearthstones (fire-cracked rock), chipped stone manufacturing debris, and spent tools.

In 1967, Glen Greene of the University of Texas performed a survey in areas to the north and northwest of the proposed Lakeview Ranch project (Texas Archeological Site Atlas, Texas Historical Commission). This survey was done prior to the construction of the dam for Calaveras Lake, just below the confluence of Calaveras and Chupaderas Creeks. Two of the sites catalogued in the survey (41BX28 & 41BX29) are both currently under the waters of Calaveras Lake. Both yielded a meager amount of prehistoric artifacts, none of which were time-diagnostic. Immediately to the north of the proposed Lakeview Ranch development, in what is now a public-use area, is site 41BX27. Greene described the site as a "flint quarry," likely a lithic resource exploitation zone, similar to the type AAC has documented in the region.

7.0 SURVEY RESULTS

The pedestrian archaeological survey of the Lakeview Ranch development yielded two archaeological sites; both can be described as light lithic scatters of prehistoric artifacts, mainly fire-cracked rock, chipped stone waste, and a few chipped stone artifacts. Both sites are described below.

Construction activities had begun on the Site, as streets were being cut in the southeast portion at the time of the survey. Also, land modification in the form of grading and filling, was in progress at the time of the survey. Despite this construction activity, the survey conditions on the property were actually good and ground visibility varied from grassy/wide cover to open fields. Previously the area consisted of mostly plowed fields with a small drainage dividing the northern and southern portions. An abandoned ranch-style home of post-World War II vintage (Fig.4) and three out buildings were also noted on the property. No formal site designation was given to the home and outbuildings, but digital images were made to document the structures.

The two archaeological sites were temporarily designated as LRP-1 and LRP-2 and trinomial numbers (4IBX1769 and 4IBX1770, respectively) were assigned by the Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin. Each of the sites is described below.

4IBX 1769 (LRP-1) (Figs. 6 and 7)

This site is located on the northern portion of the property and consists of a light scatter of cultural material including fire-cracked rock (mostly chert (flint) and quartzite), chipped stone residue such as flakes, small cores (Fig. 8), tested cobbles and some formal artifacts (Fig. 9). The site area is approximately 400 meters north-south and 150 meters east-west, essentially defined by a sandy ridge overlooking Chupaderas Creek (Fig.6). The artifacts observed consist of an Abasolo point (likely Middle Archaic in age, ca.4500 years ago; Turner and Hester 1993:68; see Fig. 8), the distal end of an untyped point, a biface fragment broken during manufacture, and the proximal end of a tool made on a chert blade.

The cultural deposits at 4IBX1769 are confined to the upper sandy mantle plow zone and are thinly scattered. There is no stratigraphic integrity to the deposits although the diagnostic artifacts, the Abasolo point and dart point distal fragment, date to the Archaic period. No further work is recommended.

4IBX1770 (LRP-2) (Fig. 9)

This light lithic scatter occurs along a high point of the sandy ridge on the southern portion of the property (Fig. 6). It also consists of lithic material including fire-cracked rock (chert mostly), flakes, a small core, and a uniface tool, probably a knife blade resharpened unifacially (Fig. 11). The cultural material covers an area of about 200 meters north-south and 100 meters east-west; it is confined to the sandy plow zone and has no stratigraphic integrity. No temporally diagnostic artifacts were observed. No further archaeological work is recommended.

8.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The pedestrian survey of the Lakeview Ranch property yielded two archaeological sites, 4IBX1769 and 4IBX1770, both light lithic scatters of prehistoric artifacts that probably date largely to the Archaic period (especially 4IBX1769) and later, roughly 4,500-10,000 years ago. The cultural deposits at both sites are confined to the upper sandy mantle that has been eroded and thus lack stratigraphic integrity. Furthermore, no specific cultural component can be isolated either stratigraphically or spatially. No further archaeological work is recommended.

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FIGURES

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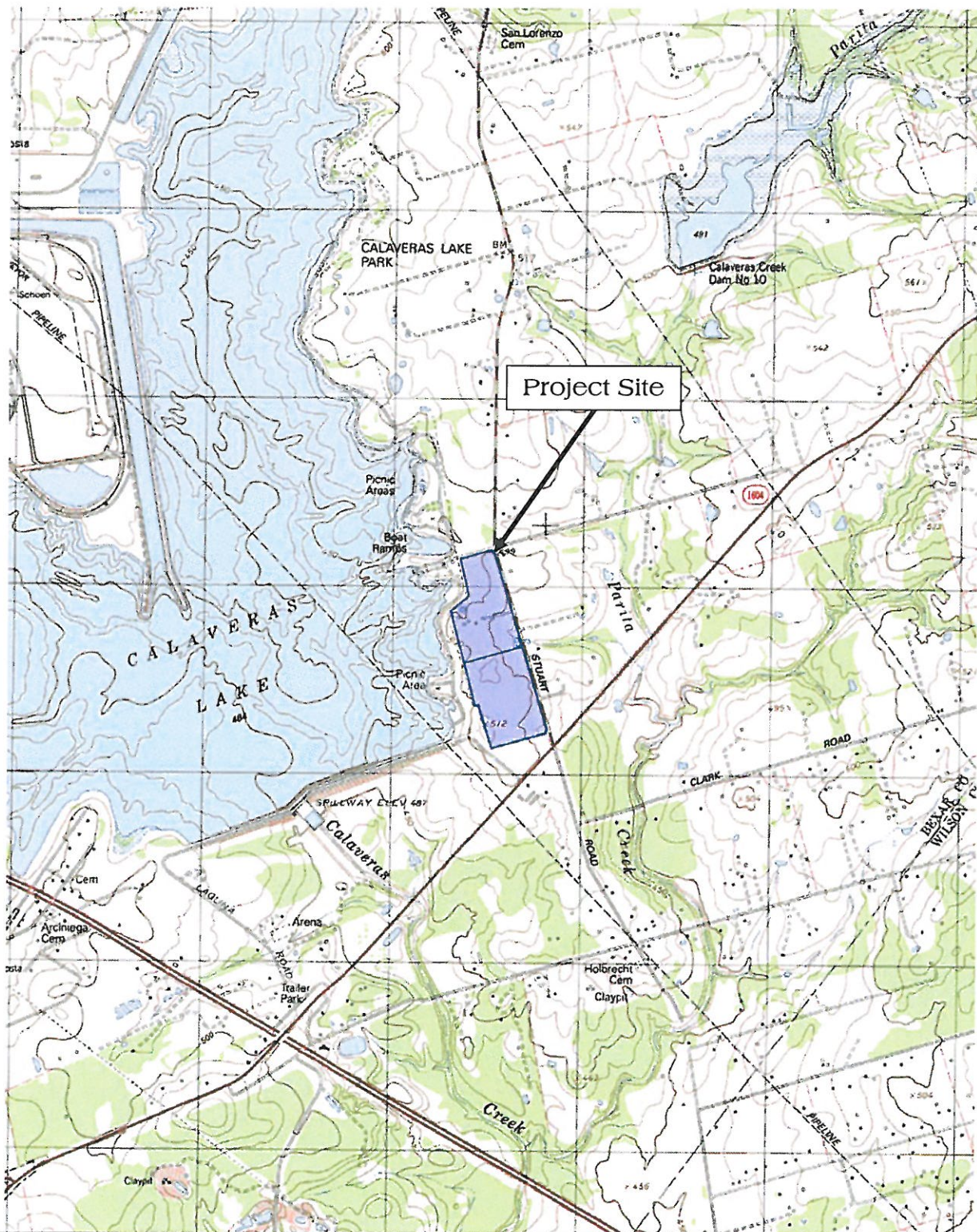
2008 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

DRAWING NOT TO SCALE

N↑

FIGURE 1

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U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map
Elmendorf, Texas Sheet (1992)

DRAWING NOT TO SCALE

N↑

FIGURE 2

FGS Project N° FGS-E08162



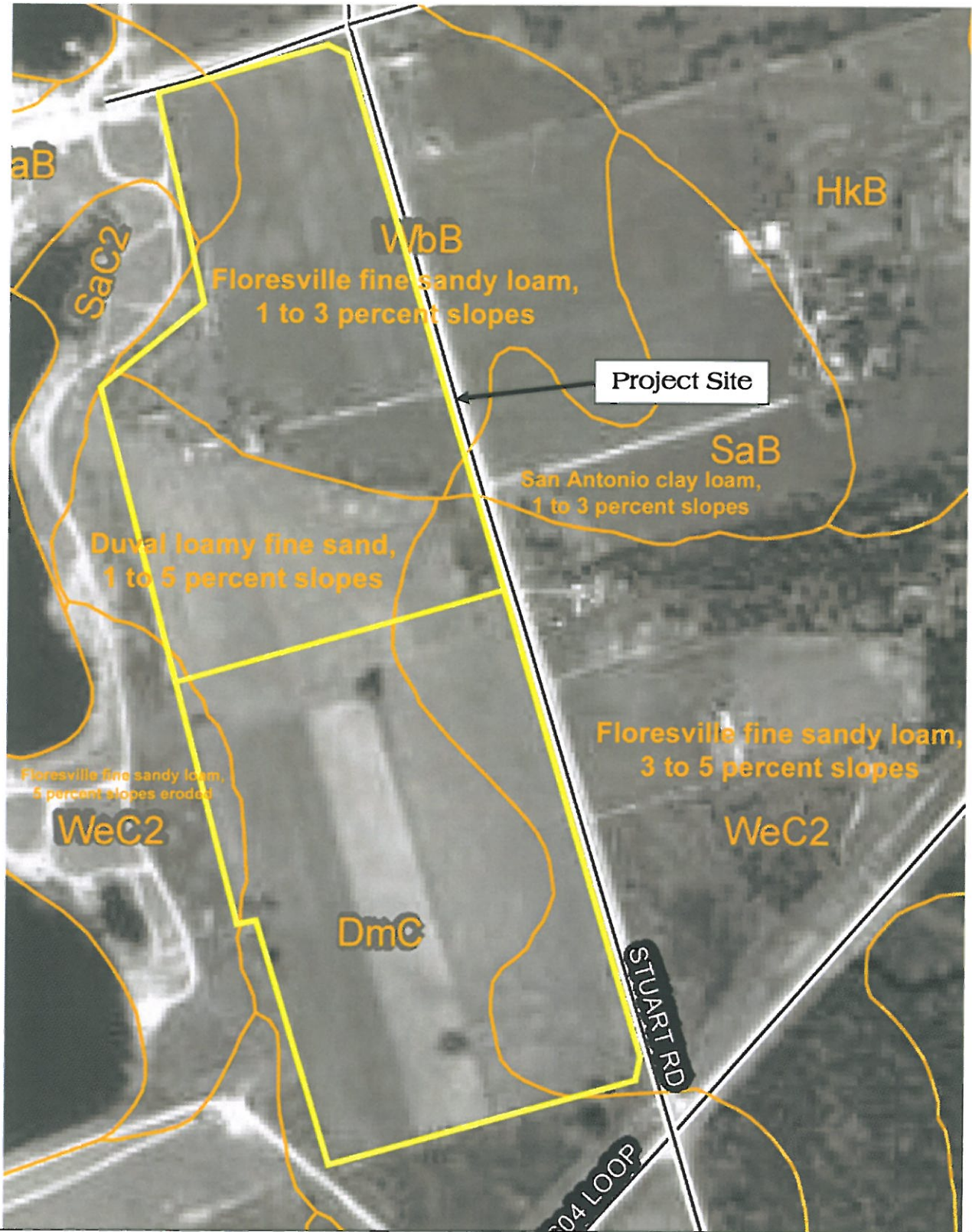
GEOLOGIC MAP

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FIGURE 3

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USDA SOILS MAP

DRAWING NOT TO SCALE

N↑

FIGURE 4

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Figure 5. Views of the abandoned ranch-style house and barn at the Lakeview Ranch property.



IMAGE RESTRICTED



Figure 6. Topo map showing the locations of archaeological sites 41BX1769 and 41BX1770.

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 7. View of site 41BX1769 looking north.

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Figure 8. Chipped stone artifacts from archaeological site 41BX1769; left to right: large flake, early stage biface, and a small biface core.

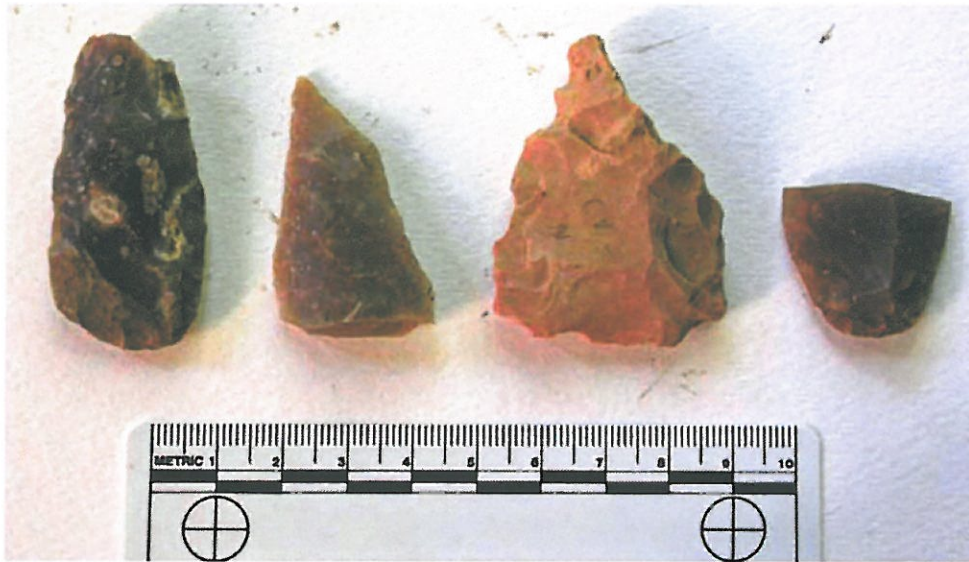


Figure 9. Chipped stone artifacts from archaeological site 41BX1769. Left to right: Abasolo point; untyped distal fragment; broken biface; blade tool fragment.

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 10. View of site 41BX1770 looking north.

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Figure 11. Uniface knife blade from archaeological site 41BX1770.